End-of-Year Recap: School Safety Resources and Tools for K-12 Schools

Thursday, June 23, 2022
Webinar Agenda

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• SchoolSafety.gov
  • Topic Pages
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  • Tools to Get Started
    ▪ Funding Opportunities
    ▪ Personalized Action Plans
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• Community Engagement
• Q & A
Webinar Objectives

1. Provide an overview of features available on SchoolSafety.gov that school personnel can utilize to discover the right resources for their communities and create a comprehensive school safety program.

2. Highlight tools that schools and districts can use to find applicable school safety grants and funding opportunities to enhance school safety.
Featured Speakers

John Picarelli
Director
Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships (CP3)
Department of Homeland Security

Ryan Streeter
Product Branch Lead
School Safety Task Force
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency
Department of Homeland Security

Katie Ross
Product Branch Specialist
School Safety Task Force
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency
Department of Homeland Security
Topic pages contain a definition along with accompanying information regarding the topic, key strategies to consider, and featured resources to support schools and districts.

Resources tend to be how-to or action-oriented guides that inform users on how to implement strategies to address the topics.
Bullying and cyberbullying threaten students’ physical and emotional safety and can impact their social and academic success at school.

There are several reasons behind school violence; in some cases, being the victim of bullying could play a contributing role.

- Cyberbullying | SchoolSafety.gov
- Physical Bullying | SchoolSafety.gov
- Verbal Bullying | SchoolSafety.gov
Featured Resources – Bullying and Cyberbullying

Prevent Bullying
(Dept. of Health and Human Services)

StopBullying.gov
(Dept. of Health and Human Services)
Across America, kindergarten through grade 12 (K-12) educational institutions are experiencing a significant increase in cyberattacks.

Malicious cyber actors are targeting school computer systems, slowing access, and rendering the systems inaccessible to basic functions.

Cybersecurity | SchoolSafety.gov

- Data Breaches | SchoolSafety.gov
- Online Exploitation | SchoolSafety.gov
- Phishing | SchoolSafety.gov
- Ransomware | SchoolSafety.gov
Featured Resource – Cybersecurity

StopRansomware.gov
(Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency)
Families and communities expect schools to keep their children safe from a range of emergency events, like crime, natural disasters, and accidents.

A key component of emergency planning is creating an Emergency Operations Plan (school EOP), or a document that outlines how a school will prepare, respond, and recover from an emergency.

Emergency Planning | SchoolSafety.gov

- Recovery | SchoolSafety.gov
- Training, Exercises, and Drills | SchoolSafety.gov
The Role of Districts in Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans (Dept. of Ed, HHS, DHS, DOJ)

EOP Interactive Tools (Dept. of Education)

Sample School Emergency Operations Plan (For Training Purposes) (FEMA)
Schools must be prepared to respond to sudden infectious disease outbreaks and other public health concerns and emergencies.

Sustaining safe in-person learning, ensuring proper hygiene, and managing daily operations are all important for keeping a safe and secure school environment amid a health crisis.

Infectious Diseases & Public Health | SchoolSafety.gov

- Distance Learning | SchoolSafety.gov
- In-Person Learning | SchoolSafety.gov
- Physical Spacing and Testing | SchoolSafety.gov
- Sanitation and Ventilation | SchoolSafety.gov
Return to School Roadmap
(Dept. of Education)

Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in Kindergarten (K)-12 Schools
(Dept. of Health and Human Services)
Students often come to school with complex physical and mental health concerns or social service needs.

Access to mental health services helps to create a positive school climate, prevents worsening of mental health conditions, and leads to better outcomes for students.

Mental Health | SchoolSafety.gov
- At Risk Children | SchoolSafety.gov
- Conduct Issues | SchoolSafety.gov
- School Based Mental Health Services | SchoolSafety.gov
- Substance Use | SchoolSafety.gov
- Suicide Management | SchoolSafety.gov
- Training, Partnership, and Capacity Building | SchoolSafety.gov
Featured Resource – Mental Health

National School Mental Health Best Practices: Implementation Guidance Modules for States, Districts, and Schools (Dept. of Health and Human Services)
Developing students with strong character who are connected to their peers, educators, and communities in meaningful ways can improve school climate and prevent violence from occurring.

Research suggests that a positive school climate can lead to a significant decrease in the likelihood of crime, aggression, and violent behavior.
Featured Resources – School Climate

School Climate Improvement Resource Package
(Dept. of Education)

Guiding Principles: Guide for Improving School Climate
(Dept. of Education)
Targeted violence refers to violence that is premeditated and directed at specific individuals, groups, or locations.

The best practice for preventing targeted school violence is through the use of a multidisciplinary school threat assessment team, comprised of school staff tasked to identify, assess, and intervene with students who may pose a risk of harm to themselves or others.

Targeted Violence | SchoolSafety.gov
- Physical Security | SchoolSafety.gov
- School Security Personnel | SchoolSafety.gov
- Violence Prevention | SchoolSafety.gov
Featured Resources – Targeted Violence

- DHS Campus Resilience Program K–12 Active Shooter Exercise Starter Kits (Dept. of Homeland Security)
- School Security Officer (SSO) Certification Program (State Agency)
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): School Resource Officer Program & Other Law Enforcement Responses to School-Based Incidents (Third Party)
Reporting on a variety of concerning student behaviors and other suspicious activities provides authorities and school personnel with the information they need to stop violence before it occurs.

Having a threat assessment program, or a multidisciplinary group process, to evaluate these reports can significantly reduce violence, including mass casualty attacks.

Threat Assessment and Reporting | SchoolSafety.gov
Featured Resources – Threat Assessment and Reporting

- Protecting America’s Schools: A U.S. Secret Service Analysis of Targeted School Violence (DHS)
- Enhancing School Safety Using a Threat Assessment Model: An Operational Guide for Preventing Targeted School Violence (DHS)
- REMS TA Center School Behavioral Threat Assessments: An Introduction (Dept. of Education)
SchoolSafety.gov Topics in Review

- Bullying & Cyberbullying
- Infectious Diseases and Public Health
- Cybersecurity
- Mental Health
- Targeted Violence
- Emergency Planning
- School Climate
- Threat Assessment & Reporting
SchoolSafety.gov tool that features Federally available school safety-related grant opportunities in one centralized location.

Designed to help schools determine eligibility and applicability of grant programs for their specific needs, challenges, and characteristics.

Option to take quiz, select pre-populated lists, or filter grants by specific criteria such as school safety topic, funding agency, application level of effort and deadline, and intended audience.
The Safety Readiness Tool assists users in evaluating their respective school’s safety posture across 10 foundational elements of school safety.

After completing the assessment, users are provided a tailored Action Plan with task prioritization, options for consideration, aligned resources, and grant opportunities specific to their individual school’s needs.
SchoolSafety.gov offers a State Search Tool to provide the academic community with a streamlined and centralized tool to access state-specific school safety information, including programs, resources, contacts, and engagement opportunities.

Through the tool, state school safety leaders connect with the Clearinghouse, its partner agencies, and other state security entities to share resources, exchange best practices, and collaborate on school safety-related efforts.
SchoolSafety.gov allows you to search through the wealth of guidance, trainings, and fact sheets it contains. From this page, you are also able to request the addition of a new resource.

The list of resources can be filtered by any number of the 8 resource filters. Resources can also be searched for by name in the search bar.
The SchoolSafety.gov Events page allows users to learn about past and upcoming events and opportunities for their school or district.

Users can explore upcoming events such as webinars and conferences related to school safety, and can customize which events are displayed by using filters.
Resources submitted to SchoolSafety.gov must adhere to the following standards and guidelines:

- Resource is aligned to one or more topic(s) reflected on SchoolSafety.gov.
- Resource is applicable for the school safety community.
- Resource has been published or validated within the past 5 years and is still applicable to present.
- Resource must be available online (i.e. in electronic format).
- Resource is available for free to the public and at no cost to the government.
- Resource references peer-reviewed, evidence-based studies, research and scenarios.
- Submitter of content should either be the owner of the content or have permission from the content-developer to submit and post, if approved.
Clearinghouse Engagement with Community

**WEBINAR SERIES**

**CONFERENCES & ENGAGEMENTS**

**DIRECT OUTREACH**

**GOV DELIVERY BULLETINS**

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

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**STATE PARTNER NETWORK**
- State Departments of Education
- School Safety Centers
- Superintendent Associations
- School Districts & Administrators

**FEDERAL PARTNER NETWORK**
- Department of Education
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Justice
- Department of Health & Human Services

**PRIVATE SECTOR NETWORK**
- Educational Organizations & Associations
- School Safety Organizations
- Communities with School Violence Experience
- School Safety Conferences

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**ENHANCE SECURITY & PROTECT SCHOOLS’ EDUCATIONAL MISSION**
Follow Us on Twitter for Upcoming Events and School Safety News! 🌐
• @SchoolSafetyGov

Click here to sign up for regular updates or scan QR code.

Key Resource Links
• https://www.schoolsafety.gov/grants-finder-tool
• https://www.schoolsafety.gov/safety-readiness-tool
• https://www.schoolsafety.gov/state-search-tool
• https://www.schoolsafety.gov/find-school-safety-resources
• https://www.schoolsafety.gov/events

Questions, feedback, or ideas?
Please contact SchoolSafety@hq.dhs.gov